

GERMANS REPULSED IN FRENCH ATTACKS NORTH OF THE AISNE

Assaults at Two Points on Line Thrown Back. French Turn Defeat Into Victory at Lihon.

Violent German attacks north of the Aisne on Christmas Eve, which were resumed on Christmas Day, are reported in the official communique from the War Office today. These attacks, delivered at Chivy, near Soupir (northwest of Yally), and in the region of Perthes, were repulsed, but the statement today indicates there was little cessation in fighting yesterday, except in Belgium, where operations were hindered by a fog.

South of Arras the Germans are attempting a furious drive toward Amiens, from which radiate several railway lines upon which the French, Belgian and British troops in Flanders and the extreme north part of France depend for their supplies, such as come through England, through Dunkirk and Calais. News that the Germans are striving to reach Amiens is considered important enough to chronicle in the official statements.

The brief lull in the fighting in Flanders is due not only to the fog, but to the further fact that the Allies have reached the food barrier, which halted the Germans when they tried to hack their way through to Dunkirk before the main English forces had reached the front. Ice has formed in the flooded region, but this is not yet thick enough to bear the weight of men and artillery. When the ice has reached the necessary thickness the offensive of both Germans and Allies in this region will have resulted in the greatest losses that have yet occurred in the war.

FRENCH GUNS BOMBARD OUTER FORTS AT METZ

Lines Pushed Beyond Arnville in Drive Into Lorraine.

The outer defenses of the fortress of Metz are reported to be under fire from French guns today, in an official statement issued here. The Germans, it is declared, took as prisoners 819 men and 19 officers and captured 14 machine guns and 12 mine throwers. English assaults on the western front is reported, while the situation in the East is declared to be unchanged.

3000 ALLIES LEFT DEAD ON FIELD, BERLIN REPORTS

Enemy Repulsed at Feshubert With Heavy Losses. The claim that the Allies left 3000 dead on the field after the fighting about Feshubert in March, 1914, in an official statement issued here. The Germans, it is declared, took as prisoners 819 men and 19 officers and captured 14 machine guns and 12 mine throwers. English assaults on the western front is reported, while the situation in the East is declared to be unchanged.

AUSTRIA WILL REMAIN STEADFAST TO ALLY

Count Berchtold Denies Dual Monarchy Is Seeking Peace. "Austria is not seeking peace. She has no reason for seeking peace. The German nations are pledged to act together in making war and in making peace. Reports that Austria intends to desert her ally, England, are entirely unfounded. In these words Count Leopold Berchtold, Foreign Minister and head of the Austro-Hungarian Cabinet, today answered the rumors circulated in the newspapers of France and England that his Government was trying to effect peace with Russia and Serbia.

BRITISH SEA RAID FAILS

Turks Compel Cruiser to Withdraw From Gulf of Akabah. Among the items given out by the Press Bureau was the following: Constantinople says an English cruiser endeavored to enter the Gulf of Akabah (the eastern horn of the Red Sea), but was forced to withdraw.

RUSSIA CEDES LAND TO JAPAN

Germany Hears of Deal for Island Off Asia. Copenhagen reports that Russia has sold its portion of the Sakhalin Island to Japan in exchange for heavy guns. Sakhalin lies east of Asia, and is separated from the mainland by the Gulf of Tartary. The island was officially Russian until September, 1905. By the terms of the treaty of Portsmouth, N. H., the southern half was ceded to Japan. Its area is estimated at 28,400 square miles.

TURKS HEAVEN IN DOUTAKH

General Franco Resumes Interrupted March From Miawa. The Hertha had previously been reported sunk in the Baltic about three weeks ago. She was placed in commission in 1907, and for several years before the war was used as a training ship. Her complement numbered 63 men. She was a vessel of 350 tons. The Hertha was equipped with 24 guns, but her largest were two of the 6-inch type.

AUSTRIAN SHIP CRIPPLED

Battleship Hit by Mine Laid Up for Repairs. Rome, Dec. 25.—An Austrian battleship has been laid up in Montenegro from Pola to be docked and repaired because of damage done by a mine, says a dispatch from Montenegro, on the Gulf of Trieste, until the end of the year.

CZAR GAINS GROUND ALONG POLAND FRONT

Continued from Page One. have perished in the North Sea, a victim of the British gunners' fire. An aeroplane is reported to have fallen into the sea northeast of the mouth of the Thames. The Admiralty announced that the raider's craft had been seen several times by the British defenders.

A German squadron is reported to have sailed into the North Sea toward the British coast. A battle is expected. It is reported the British cruiser Newcastle has engaged the German cruiser Dresden, off the Chilean coast.

BERLIN DROPS CLAIMS OF BIG POLAND VICTORY

Progress, However, Is Reported. Hopes Centre on Hindenburg. BERLIN, Dec. 25.—Though admitting that the Russians are offering desperate resistance to the German retreat in Poland, military experts declare that the troops of Field Marshal von Hindenburg are making steady progress, and point out that the advance to Lubec shows the Germans have gone 25 miles down the Pilica River valley toward the Vistula.

Sifting of the official reports from Poland shows that the Germans have won no overwhelming victory there, and no claims are now being made to that effect. The effect of the German advance, however, has been twofold. It has kept Russia from menace and is threatening Warsaw.

Berlin experts are basing the highest hopes on Von Hindenburg's aggressiveness. Despite the early exaggeration of the German retreat in Poland they anticipate the fall of Warsaw at an early date, with a consequent crippling of the Russian armies for months. They declare, will strengthen the offensive in the west, though the addition of troops sent from the east.

The foregoing dispatch was passed by the German censor. It is the first received from Berlin substantiating the Russians' declaration that they were not routed in Poland.

CZAR'S DRIVE IN BLIZZARD HURLS Foe BACK SIX MILES

Christmas Day Assault Gains Rawka River and Bawa Heights.

Russians along the defense line of Warsaw celebrated Christmas Day by driving the German army out of the Rawka River and back six miles to Jezow. This movement, made in the teeth of a blizzard that rendered the enemy's aeroplanes useless for scouting, gives the Russian control of the Rawka River, which dominates the territory between the Pilica and Bura Rivers. For five days the Germans had been in possession of Rawka, part of which stands on the highest point of a range of hills between the Pilica and Bura Rivers.

A sanguinary battle took place on these heights, but after a conflict of three hours the Germans were driven down the western slopes. The Russians took 200 prisoners and three guns.

According to the Army Messenger, this victory at Rawka opens a way to making a breach in the German lines to lessen the pressure that the Kaiser's troops are maintaining against the Russians on both the Bura and Pilica.

AUSTRIANS CHECK ENEMY ON WHOLE GALICIAN FRONT

Defense Is Potent Against Heavy Russian Reinforcements. VIENNA, Dec. 25.—The Russian army, reinforced by fresh troops for their campaign against Croatia, are attacking the Austrians along the entire front in Galicia. These attacks are being successfully repulsed, however, according to an official report from General von Hotzendorf, of the General Staff.

TURKS AND RUSSIANS HALT FIGHTING TO GET WARM

Petrograd Reports Standstill in Asia Minor Campaign. PETROGRAD, Dec. 25.—The Russo-Turkish operations have been brought to a standstill by climatic conditions in Asia Minor. Here the Russian troops have spread out, covering all the roads and quartering in the villages in an immense triangle, whose sides converge for 70 miles, with the base on the Russo-Turkish frontier and the apex pointing toward Erzerum.

FRENCH WAR CRAFT SUNK

Paris Paper Reaffirms Submarine Loss in Adriatic. PARIS, Dec. 25.—While the Government has not admitted the sinking of a French submarine in the Adriatic, as announced at Vienna, the Matin says that Italian papers state that one of Admiral La Ferra's submarines was shattered by gun fire while attempting to torpedo Austrian battleships at Pola, and that the crew were taken prisoners.

GERMAN CRUISER SUNK IN BALTIC, RUSSIANS SAY

Destruction of the Hertha Once More Announced. PETROGRAD, Dec. 25.—The German cruiser Hertha and a German mine layer have been sunk in the Baltic Sea, according to information received by the Russian Admiralty. No details accompanied the message telling of the Germans' double loss, but Admiralty officials believe that the Hertha was sunk while it was trying to protect the mine layer in its operations along the Russian coast, being overtaken by a fast cruiser.

GERMANS DIRECT NEW DRIVE ON WARSAW FROM NORTH

General Franco Resumes Interrupted March From Miawa. It is generally believed here that the fighting in Poland is now rapidly approaching a crisis. General Franco is endeavoring to resume his march from Miawa on the north. Following the defeat of the Germans in that region, it is now admitted that they are offering serious resistance, and have partly succeeded in assuming an offensive.

GERMANS DIRECT NEW DRIVE ON WARSAW FROM NORTH

General Franco Resumes Interrupted March From Miawa. Only the success of General Franco or the breaking of the Russian line before Warsaw at an early date can save Field Marshal von Hindenburg from being forced to retreat from the Polish capital for a second time. Heavy artillery has been brought up on the main line of the German attack, and the battle west of Warsaw has assumed enormous proportions.



THE WAR FROM A GERMAN ANGLE. Joffre—For Heaven's sake, French, where are your men? French—I have only one regiment and I'm saving them for the entry at Berlin.

WORLD'S HAPPINESS IN AMERICA'S HANDS, SAYS MAETERLINCK

Belgian Author Pleads That His Country Be Saved From Destruction—Xmas Cheer From Noted Men. Declaring the United States today holds in its hands the destiny and happiness of the world, Maurice Maeterlinck, from his villa in Italy, appeals to the American people. The following message was received today by the Paris Bureau of the United Press:

WAR-TORN FRANCE CRAVES JAPAN'S AID IN WAR, SAYS EDITOR

Clemenceau Urges Acceptance of Yellow Assistance to Bring Conflict to Early Close—"Peril" Not Feared. PARIS, Dec. 25.—Georges Clemenceau, former Premier, in a two-column article yesterday breaks a lance in favor of Japan's armed intervention in Europe. He says:

"When Kitchener said the war would likely last three years, he evidently overlooked the fact that it is taking place chiefly in French territory, and it is therefore France who most suffers from wanton destruction and losses of lives and property.

"It is unquestionably to the interest of all concerned that the Allies should be able to overwhelm their foes and thus end the terrible conflict."

Clemenceau does not see any reason why the Allies should scorn the help of Japan while the intervention of other Powers, at present neutral, would be welcomed. But, he adds, the matter naturally would require long negotiations and the transport of troops would be no light or quick task.

Therefore he urges the Allies to take immediate action and call a diplomatic conference for preliminary negotiations, to gain time and have Japan's troops on the European battlefields in early spring.

Japan's intervention is much discussed here, although M. Hanotaux, former Foreign Minister, has taken an attitude against its realization. His chief argument is that France should decline Japan's help in order "to retain as much as possible the purely French character of final victory."

Deputy Lucien Millevoye, former chief of the Nationalist party, has a long article last night urging intervention. He says:

"There is no use to review now the old bogey of the yellow peril. It is precisely the 'yellow peril' that the Kaiser used to mask his ambitions and plans."

ITALY IS STILL NEUTRAL, DESPITE MOVE ON AVLONA

Austrian Protest Unlikely on Account of Albanian Intervention. LONDON, Dec. 25.—The landing of Italian marines at Avlona, Albania, is not expected to be followed by representations from Austria to Rome. Italy has declared its intentions are governed solely by a desire to prevent anarchy spreading to the Adriatic shores, and it is believed here today that Austria, for the present, will accept this explanation.

CANADIANS SEIZE AMERICANS

Many Forced to War in Prison Camps. CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Many American citizens are being detained at the prison camps in Canada, according to W. J. White, Canadian Government Inspector of American Immigration Agencies for the Department of the Interior at Ottawa. He is at present in Chicago. Most of the prisoners, he said, are being employed at manual labor.

PEACE IN 1915, POPE'S HOPE

Pope Benedict XV celebrated the three masses incumbent upon all priests of the Catholic Church at midnight Christmas Eve in the Pauline Chapel in the presence of members of the court. The Pope personally is convinced, the cardinals say, that the war will not last a year.

CZAR LEAVES FOR FRONT

Russian Ruler Spent Christmas Visiting Wounded in Hospitals. LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Czar, after spending Christmas visiting hospitals in the vicinity of Petrograd, spreading cheer among the wounded soldiers, left last night for the front, says a dispatch from Petrograd to a news agency here.

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BOYS SCOUTS

Plans for the second annual Boy Scouts' New Year's rally in the 3d Regiment Armory have been practically completed.

That it will be the largest Boy Scout gathering ever held in the city is assured, for the unregistered troops are fast making themselves eligible for the demonstrations by conforming with the rules for registering.

Among them will be present Scout Commissioner George D. Porter, Director of Public Safety, Charles Edwin Fox, Assistant District Attorney, and Alexander M. Wilson, Assistant Director of Public Health and Charities, all of whom are members of the Executive Scout Council.

The doors will be opened at 2:30 p. m. At 3 o'clock the two-hour program will begin. Picked buglers from all the troops will send the call "to the colors" throughout the hall, and the impressive Scout salute to the flag, led by Deputy Scout Commissioner Patton, will bring the audience to its feet for the singing of "America."

Dr. Charles D. Hart, chairman of the Executive Scout Council, will extend a greeting to the Scouts. Director Porter will then award merit badges to 33 Scouts. The affection which the organization bears the two speakers will be voted by the Scout yells, the new locomotive yell by the Gettysburg Service Corps, and the America yell by the entire assemblage. Exhibition of fire-making and other interesting "Boy Pack" will be followed by the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Perry Irvine, introduced by Doctor Hart, will then give an illustrated talk on his experience in guiding an expedition of boys around the world. A reel of Scout pictures, by the H. B. Weekly and the Public Ledger, showing the hike to League Island, the stars of the Athletics and Phillies, views at Camp Fell and at the summer camp on Treasure Island, will be thrown upon the screen. With the words before them the Scouts will sing their song "Sling Your Pack," and bring the program to a close.

Massed bugles sounding "retreat" will be the signal for leaving the hall for a parade on Broad street to Columbia avenue. The parade will be headed by the bands of Troops 1 and 2, and the fire and drum corps of other troops will be in the procession.

The rally committee, consisting of E. Urner Goodman, chairman; Nelson C. Ogden, Dr. F. B. Hitchcock, H. T. Walker and Robert McDonald, has issued the following instructions to Scoutmasters:

1. Troops all in charge of scoutmaster or assistant scoutmaster. Scouts unattached will report to Scoutmaster Ogden at the end of the rally.

2. There must be no blowing of bugles or sounding of musical instruments except:

3. Firm at "to the colors" and "retreat." At assembly bugles will report to front of hall and fall in, at attention, facing the audience. At "attention" Scouts will stand at strict attention, saluting at the last note of "to the colors" or "retreat."

4. After "retreat" troops will fall out of the Carle street side. Troops will then form in columns of eight. The route of march will be down Broad street to Columbia avenue.

Thirty Boy Scouts, under Scoutmaster J. E. Reynolds, of Seranton Troop No. 9, with headquarters at the Seranton Young Men's Association, will arrive in Philadelphia on Monday for a three-days' visit. They will be met at the Reading Terminal by representatives of the Philadelphia Boy Scouts, and will be taken to the Central M. C. A. Their visit is for sightseeing and for inspection of the Philadelphia troops.

Services at the Park Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday evening will be in the interest of Troop 25, under Dr. C. M. Christie, scoutmaster. The Camp Fire Girls, headed by Miss Thomson, will present an American flag to the troop, after which the flag will be saluted with the Scout ceremony. The sermon, by the Rev. Robert Barnell, will be directed to the development of boys and girls toward useful lives.

Thirty Boy Scouts of Troop 26, Samuel Friedman, scoutmaster, served Thursday as ushers and as distributors of gifts to 600 poor girls and boys at Starr Garden Recreation Centre, 6th and Lombard streets, in a Christmas Eve entertainment provided by Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Stetsbury.

POSTBAG FROM BATTLE FRONT

First-hand Accounts of Land and Sea Conflicts Told by the Fighting Soldiers and Sailors Themselves.

[The real war correspondents of the present European struggle are the men in the trenches and on the sea on the quarter deck. Professional writers are not permitted at the front. All they know is what they can glean from the wounded occupants of an ambulance taken to the rear. The Evening Ledger will print from time to time the only intimate side of the war—the reflections of soldiers and sailors in their letters home. German letters, when obtained, as well as those of the Allies, will be printed.]

Trying Times for Sharpshooters

Letter from Sergeant G. Buaby, Royal Irish Rifles. We have had a very trying time in the trenches, but we had the satisfaction of being specially praised by the General in Command for our work, and that reconciles us to a lot of hardship.

It is particularly trying on a rifle regiment, because we are mainly engaged in sharpshooting work, and have to lie out on the frosty ground trying to keep ourselves warm while we are picking off the enemy.

What we got praised for was one morning after we had several days of this awful work in the trenches the Germans came to attack. We discovered them, and our rifles were firing at least 10 times our strength we held our ground until the necessary dispositions could be made in other parts of the field to withstand their attack.

It was good shooting that did it. When the Germans came into view through the ravine we thought it was too good to be true and made up for the eye strain we had had to find something to hit before that. Only one party fought its way up to our trenches and tried to drive us out, but we fixed bayonets and swept them really puzzled for what to do.

We did not think there was anything very wonderful about what we did, but everybody went wild over it, and one staff officer said we ought to have two Victoria Crosses each. It was raining, thus making it a very heavy job.

Remember me to all the boys, and tell them although it is winter, it is not so cold as they think. It is not so cold as they think. It is not so cold as they think. It is not so cold as they think.

Private E. Johnson, of the York and Lancaster Light Infantry, now in the Duchesne Westminister hospital at La Tourette. It nearly breaks my heart to think I cannot send little Violet and Basil and Lilla (the three children) something for Christmas; but never mind, let us hope we shall live for another Christmas.

I am not getting on too grand, but must look on the bright side of things, as I know a few Germans went under from my rifle.

I am wounded in nine places, and have such pains in my head they nearly send me mad. My leg, too, troubles me very much. I have three wounds in my left leg, two in my head, one in my throat, one in my right hand and two through the left arm.

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Order of Leopold is a Boy Scout. He is Joseph Layn, 18 years old, a native of Brussels. King Albert, who has placed the decoration on Layn in the presence of his Ministers and military staff, congratulated him and all the Scouts who had rendered service to their country. "The youngest Belgian hero," are the words the King used in presenting the decoration.

The tracking down and capture of two spies and bravery on the field of battle are the feats for which the Boy Scout was so signally honored. When first descended upon his country he volunteered for service in the army and soon a favorite in the regiment which he joined, being called "the child of his regiment" by officers and men.

It was during the war that he was captured. He was released by Belgian officers. He was convinced the two men who were dressed as priests, were spies and obtained permission to follow them. It was during the war that he was captured. He was released by Belgian officers. He was convinced the two men who were dressed as priests, were spies and obtained permission to follow them.

Not the least, Layn's decorations, in his opinion, is the Cross of Merit, which the Boy Scouts of Belgium have awarded him.

A movement to teach Philadelphia Boy Scouts the rudiments of publishing methods will be inaugurated Monday morning, when about 100 Scouts will inspect the plant of the Curtis Publishing Company.

The visitors in uniform will be accompanied by troops in Independence Square at 9:45. Several troops from neighboring towns will be present. Guides will conduct the tour, and as a matter of fact this is the first time in which it has been possible for them to win it. Eligibility to the distinction was one of the boons granted at the Delhi Durbar by the King to his Indian subjects.

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'KITCHENER DOLL' STIRS PATRIOTISM OF ENGLISH YOUTH

Even Boys Are Not Proof Against Martial Charm of Mankind, Englishwoman Writes.

The "Kitchener doll," an accurate replica in miniature of the British Marshal and War Secretary, is a favorite toy at present with English children. So realistic is the toy that boys, who usually scorn such feminine playthings, cannot resist the temptation to own one.

An English woman, writing to a relative in Philadelphia, tells of her son's saving to purchase a "Kitchener doll," and gives a budget of news indicative of the English view of the progress of the war.

"One of my friends has furnished her motorcar with a new mascot. It is a doll called the Kitchener doll and has a really remarkably good likeness to Lord Kitchener, attired in a uniform quite perfect in every detail. My little boy, of course, wants one of them at once, and says he will save his pocket money (which amounts to the large sum of one penny per week) until he has the necessary 12 shillings and 6 pence to spend on it. I leave you to calculate how long he will have to wait for his Kitchener."

"Harry's colonel had a letter from his son at the front professing to be quite mystified by a telegram his father had sent him. The telegram read, 'Reinforcements arrived at the base,' and was to convey the welcome news that a son had been born to him. I don't believe he was really puzzled for what to do."

"Did I tell you that I am devoting two hours two days a week to giving French lessons to our soldiers; quite elementary ones, of course, and I have also a little class two evenings a week for Belgian ladies who want to learn English; the latter are getting on amazingly and they really work hard."

A HINDU "V. C." "Have you heard of the intense German patriotism as described by the Handmaid? This journal relates that at a certain school in Germany no one is permitted to mention the word 'English.' When the head of the school wanted to announce that I was going to visit, he said: 'I have put my name down for you to see you again unless I am very lucky, as we have not got many more who started with us—only 300 out of 1400, so it has been hot for us.'"

We had to carry one of our chaps back to our knees, and he was flat. They were snoring as it was raining, thus making it a very heavy job. Remember me to all the boys, and tell them although it is winter, it is not so cold as they think. It is not so cold as they think. It is not so cold as they think. It is not so cold as they think.

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DAYTONA BEACH, FLA. HOTEL BREAKERS. Directly on beach. Bathing, boating and fishing. Modern. M. KURTZ. SEASIDE INN. Directly on the Beach. J. J. GLENN, Prop.

ROCKLEDGE, FLA. HOTEL PLAZA. Rockledge, Fla. Situated directly on the Indian River; one of the most comfortable and homelike hotels on the coast. New bath, hot and cold water; best bathing, fishing and boating in the South. STANTON BUCKARIE, Prop.

DAYTONA, FLA. THE PRINCE GEORGE. Daytona's hotel. Every room electrically lighted; heating and cold water; hot and cold water. Elevator service. HIGBY & HIGBY, Props.

FALM BEACH, FLA. HIBISCUS. On LAKE WORTH. Near all attractions. Only one hotel near LAKE WORTH. C. A. GINGLES, Prop.

MOHAWK HOTEL. Opposite Old City Hall. Modern family hotel. C. R. DE VITO, Prop.

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DUNHAM HOUSE. Beautiful view. High-class boarding. Mrs. D. L. Dunham.

SEABREEZE, FLA. THE GENEVA. Private boarding for 25. Rates \$2.50 per day. Modern. H. P. BLOOM, Prop.

FUNYA GOUDA, FLA. SEMINOLE HOTEL. Best fishing in log, good table. Write E. WOOTEN, Prop.

DE LAND, FLA. THE MELROSE. Comfortable family hotel. \$10.00 per day. Mrs. W. S. BARR, Prop.

SACRAMENTO, CALIF. ROOM WITH BATH. \$15. HOTEL BURKBRIDGE. HOTEL BURKBRIDGE. HOTEL BURKBRIDGE.

THE SEAWARD. Beautiful view. Bathing from the beach. Best bathing and fishing; perfect hot and cold water. Write E. T. COMPTON, Prop.